

AUG 3 1963

AUG 3 1963

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP

STATINTL

Inside Report

Guilt by Endorsement

By Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

DEMOCRATIC strategy for the congressional election in the Bethlehem, Pa., area last week is a grim preview of what Republicans can expect Nation-wide during the 1964 campaign.

Republican Robert G. Bartlett, 31, a handsome junior executive for Bethlehem Steel, was regarded by party leaders as the perfect candidate and a sound conservative. That was before Democratic strategists branded Bartlett as a right-wing radical.

At the heart of their campaign was something close to guilt by endorsement. Democrats hammered away at the endorsement of Bartlett by Human Events, a fiercely conservative publication. Kenneth Harding, staff director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, took personal pains to bring the copy of Human Events up to Bethlehem.

Sen. Joseph S. Clark, Pennsylvania's best Democratic vote-getter, carried this a few steps further. In an Easton, Pa., speech, he noted that Human Events has a joint subscription arrangement with American Opinion, publication of the John Birch Society. Clark then called on voters to defeat Bartlett and "send notice on the John Birch Society that we in Pennsylvania want no part of him."

"It would be a calamity for the world if this area to be represented in Congress by a man who allows himself, and perhaps welcomes, support from extremists, racials, hate-mongers, bigots, and the lunatic fringe," Clark declared.

Democrat Fred Rooney beat Bartlett with surprising ease. Whether or not these tactics were the reason, scores of Republicans can expect the same treatment next year.

This is why many Republicans are so upset by the attack on the radical

right by Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York; they felt it badly confused legitimate conservatives with Birchers. And that's precisely why the Rockefeller blast delighted so many Democrats.

RIGHT-WINGERS have just about crossed Sen. Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut off their list. That's not surprising. The wonder is that the rightists considered Democrat Dodd one of their own for so long.

Unlike the rightists, Dodd never has flatly ruled out negotiated settlements with the Communists. Furthermore, he supports the New Frontier on domestic questions. But Dodd's militant anticommunism was enough for the right wing to forgive his "lapses" into liberalism.

The last straw was Dodd's introduction of a resolution (cosponsored by Minnesota's liberal Sen. Hubert A. Humphrey) calling for a ban on atmospheric nuclear testing. The conservative intellectuals who edit the National Review magazine were stunned. Some of the mail received by Dodd reflected the same shock.

"I am disappointed," wrote one constituent. "For years now, I have considered you a dedicated anti-Communist. Now you come out in favor of disarmament, an old Communist trick. I am not surprised at the State Department's stand, but I am surprised at yours."

Any residual rightist faith in Dodd will be washed away when he votes for ratification of the test-ban treaty which seems almost certain. Curiously enough, however, that doesn't mean the professional liberals are about to embrace Dodd. With more emotion than reason, they still see him as a latter-day McCarthy.

THERE'S not going to be any more talk from the National Draft Goldwater Committee about conceding the Northeastern industrial states to Democrats and winning the Presidency by concentrating on hard-core Republican states plus the South.

This unprecedented concession of states to the enemy long before the election was logical enough back in January when Rockefeller seemed near clinching the nomination. The camp of Arizona's Sen. Barry Goldwater needed a gimmick.

But now that Goldwater is leading, the gimmick is an embarrassment. Party leaders from Pennsylvania, once a Republican citadel, are infuriated at the thought of being written off. So are Maryland Republicans, who honestly believe Goldwater can carry their state against President Kennedy.

Consequently, a more conventional political line is now coming from Clifford White, head of the Draft Goldwater Washington headquarters. White insists Goldwater has a chance to carry every state — except, possibly, he adds ruefully, JFK's Massachusetts.

© 1963 New York Herald Tribune, Inc.